Key Provisions of Senate Bill No. 1070 – CA WQ Monitoring Council

- The State Board, with the assistance of the regional boards, will implement a public information program on water quality that includes a website with information on water quality monitoring, assessment, research, standards, regulation, enforcement, and other pertinent matters.
- Cal EPA and the Resources Agency, on or before December 1, 2007, will enter into an MOU to establish the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, which the State Board would be required to administer. The monitoring council may include representatives from state entities and non-state entities.
- The monitoring council will review existing water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting efforts and recommend specific actions and funding needs necessary to coordinate and enhance those efforts. The monitoring council shall initially focus on the efforts of state agencies.
- The monitoring council shall report, on or before December 1, 2008, to Cal EPA and the Resources Agency its recommendations for maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of existing water quality data collection and dissemination, and for ensuring that collected data are maintained and available for use by decision makers and the public. The monitoring council shall consult with the U.S. EPA in preparing these recommendations.
- The monitoring council shall undertake and complete, on or before April 1, 2008, a survey of its members to develop an inventory of their existing water quality monitoring and data collection efforts statewide and shall make that information available to the public.
- The Secretary of the Cal EPA, commencing December 1, 2008, will conduct a triennial audit of the effectiveness of the comprehensive monitoring program strategy, which the state board is required to develop in accordance with the Clean Water Act.
- The State Board shall prioritize the use of federal funding that may be applied to monitoring, including, but not limited to, funding under Section 106 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, for the purpose of implementing this section.

Link to SB 1070

http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb_1051-1100/sb_1070_bill_20060824_enrolled.pdf